

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 IO-04

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06

NSC-05 OES-02 OMB-01 L-01 AID-05 IGA-01 MED-02 HEW-02

PA-01 PRS-01 /069 W

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R 242131Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2489

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 9040

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, PE

SUBJECT: STATUS OF MISSION NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES

REF: STATE 233134, A-197 LIMA 9039

1. MISSION NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES HAVE SO FAR BEEN AIMED EXCLUSIVELY AT ENFORCEMENT ASPECT OF PROBLEM. IN THIS AREA WE HAVE BEEN REASONABLY SUCCESSFUL; DEA LIMA HAS BUILT UP EXCELLENT WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH PERUVIAN POLICE (PIP) AND SEIZURES AND ARRESTS HAVE SHOWN A MARKED INCREASE IN LAST TWO YEARS.

2. MISSION NARCOTICS ACTION PLAN (SEE REFAIR) AIMS AT INCREASING EFFECTIVENESS OF PIP, INITIALLY THROUGH IMPROVEMENTS IN LIMA METROPOLITAN AND NATIONWIDE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK. LATER, PLAN PROVIDES FOR GENERAL SUPPORT IN AREA OF EQUIPMENT TO INCREASE MOBILITY IN REMOTE AREAS.

3. AS A RESULT OF SUGGESTION MADE BY AMB. VANCE DURING HIS VISIT TO PERU, DEA LIMA IS NOW COORDINATING WITH PIP ON BEGINNING PLANS TO WORK IN SPECIFIC AREAS OF TINGO MARIA AND CUZCO, WHERE AN ESTIMATED 90 PERCENT OF PERU'S COCA IS GROWN, AND LATER TO EXPAND OPERATIONS TO OTHER SPECIFIC TARGET AREAS. PURPOSE OF PROGRAM IS TO CREATE AN EFFECTIVE MOBILE FORCE TO STRIKE AT
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ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION, HOPING FOR EVENTUAL PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT

OF PIP OFFICERS IN THOSE AREAS. ONCE PROGRAM IS WORKED OUT, MISSION PLANS TO SUBMIT IT TO WASHINGTON REQUESTING APPROPRIATE USG ASSISTANCE. IT IS ENVISIONED THAT THIS ASSISTANCE WILL INCLUDE VEHICLES FOR TRANSPORTATION E.G. JEEPS AND POSSIBLY RIVER BOATS, AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR PER DIEM AND OTHER INVESTIGATIVE EXPENSES OF PIP.

4. PRESENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR PER DIEM AND OTHER INVESTIGATIVE EXPENSES IS THE SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE COMPONENT OF PLAN. IT ENABLES PIP TO CONDUCT OPERATIONS IN REMOTE AREAS WITHOUT PERSONAL FINANCIAL HARDSHIP TO INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS, AS VIRTUALLY NO GOP FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR GOSOLINE, PER DIEM, ETC. THESE FUNDS PREVIOUSLY CAME FROM THE INDIVIDUAL OFFIER'S POCKET. MISSION STRONGLY URGES, AT THE VERY LEAST, CONTINUATION OF FUNDS AT PRESENT LEVEL AND, HOPEFULLY, AN INCREASE IN FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE.

5. ALSO DURING THE RECENT VISIT OF AMB. VANCE, MININTERIOR RICHTER VOICED HIS CONCERN RE INTERNATIONAL DRUG SITUATION, NTOING THAT IT IS NOT JUS FXKS. PROBLEM BUT ONE THAT ALSO AFFECTS PERU, A WELCOME CHANGE FROM ATTITUDE USUALLY ECPRESSED BY GOP OFFICIALS.

HE ALSO NOTED HIS SUPPORT FOR SUBSTITUTING FOOD CROPS FOR COCA. IN THIS AREA, PROVIDED THE GOP IMPROVES ITS INTERNAL COORDINATION ON COCA POLICY AND MAKES A FIRM COMMITMENT TO FIGHT DRUG TRAFFICKING, WE MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN AREA OF STUDY GRANTS TO LOOK INTO CROP SUBSTITUTION POSSIBILITIES. THE MISSION ACTION PLAN CALLED FOR A CROP SUBSTITUTION STUDY THIS FISCAL YEAR. THIS WAS TABLED, HOWVER, PRECISELY DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF A SUIT-ABLE COMMITMENT AND INTERNAL COORDINATION ON PART OF GOP. SOME PROGRESS MAY EVENTUALLY BE POSSIBLE ON BOTH FRONTS, BASED ON MININTERIOR RICHTER'S RECENT COMMENTS.
DEAN

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